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mous; to censure falsely in public; to deprive of honour; to dishonour by reports; to libel; to calumniate; to destroy reputation by either acts or words.

I heard the *defaming* of many. *Jer. xx. 10.*
They live as if they professed Christianity merely in pight, to *defame* it. *Decay of Piety.*

My guilt thy growing virtues did *defame*;
My blackness blotted thy unblemish'd name. *Dryden's Æn.*
DEFA'ME. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Disgrace; dishonour.

Many doughty knights he in his days
Had done to death,
And hung their conquer'd arms for more *defame*
On gallows-trees. *Fairy Queen, b. ii. cant. 5. Stan. 26.*

DEFA'MER. *n. f.* [from *defame*.] One that injures the reputation of another; a detractor; a calumniator.

It may be a useful trial of the patience of the defamed, yet the defamer has not the less crime. *Government of the Tongue.*
To DEFATIGATE. *v. a.* [defatigo, Latin.] To weary; to tire. *Dict.*

DEFATIGA'TION. *n. f.* [defatigatio, Latin.] Weariness; fatigue. *Dict.*

DEFA'ULT. *n. f.* [default, French.]
1. Omission of that which we ought to do; neglect.
2. Crime; failure; fault.

Sedition tumbled into England more by the default of governors than the peoples. *Haywood.*

We that know what 'tis to fast and pray,
Are penitent for your default to-day. *Shak. Com. of Errors.*
Let me not rashly call in doubt
Divine prediction: what if all foretold
Had been fulfill'd, but through mine own default,
Whom have I to complain of, but myself? *Milt. Agonistes.*

Partial judges we are of our own excellencies, and other mens defaults. *Swift.*

3. Defect; want.
In default of the king's pay, the forces were laid upon the subject. *Davies on Ireland.*

Cooks could make artificial birds and fishes, in default of the real ones. *Arbutnot on Coins.*

4. [In law.] Non-appearance in court at a day assigned. *Cowel.*
To DEF'AULT. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To fail in performing any contract or stipulation; to forfeit by breaking a contract.

DEFEASANCE. *n. f.* [defaisance, French.]
1. The act of annulling or abrogating any contract or stipulation.

2. *Defaisance* is a condition annexed to an act; as to an obligation, a recognizance, or statute, which performed by the obligee, or the cognizee, the act is disabled and made void, as if it had never been done. *Cowel.*

3. The writing in which a defeasance is contained.

4. A defeat; conquest; the act of conquering; the state of being conquered. *Obsolete.*

That hoary king, with all his train,
Being arrived, where that champion stout,
After his foe's *defeatance*, did remain,
Him goodly greets, and fair does entertain. *Fairy Queen.*

DEFE'A-BLE. *adj.* [from *defaire*, Fr. to make void.] That which may be annulled or abrogated.

He came to the crown by a *defeasible* title, so was never well settled. *Davies on Ireland.*

DEFEAT. *n. f.* [from *defaire*, French.]
1. The overthrow of an army.

End Marlborough's work, and finish the defeat. *Addison.*
2. Act of destruction; deprivation.

A king, upon whose life
A damn'd defeat was made. *Shakespeare's Hamlet.*

To DEFEAT. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To overthrow.

Ye gods, ye make the weak most strong;
Therein, ye gods, ye tyrants do defeat. *Shak. Jul. Cesar.*
They invaded Ireland, and were defeated by the lord Mountjoy. *Bacon on the War with Spain.*

2. To frustrate.

To his accusations
He pleaded still not guilty, and alleg'd
Many sharp reasons to defeat the law. *Shak. Henry VIII.*

Then due by sentence when thou did'st transgress,
Defeated of his seizure, many days,
Giv'n thee of grace. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. i. l. 254.*
Discovered, and defeated of your prey,
You fault'd. *Dryden's Virg. Post. 3.*

He finds himself naturally to dread a superior Being, that can defeat all his designs, and disappoint all his hopes. *Tillotson.*

2. To abolish.
DEFEAT'URE. *n. f.* [from *de* and *feature*.] Change of feature; alteration of countenance.

Grief hath chang'd me,
And careful hours, with time's deformed hand,
Hath written strange *defeatures* in my face. *Shakespeare's Care.*
To DEFEATE. *v. a.* [defeo, Latin.]

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1. To purge liquors from lees or foulness; to purify; to cleanse. I practised a way to *defecate* the dark and muddy oil of amber. *Boyle's History of Fireworks.*

The blood is not sufficiently *defecated* or clarified, but remains muddy. *Harvey on Conjunctions.*

Provide a brazen tube
Inflex; self-taught and voluntary flies
The *defecated* liquor, through the vent
Ascending; then, by downward tract convey'd,
Spouts into subject vessels, lovely clear. *Philips.*

2. To purify from any extraneous or noxious mixture; to clear; to brighten.

We *defecate* the notion from materiality, and abstract quantity, place, and all kind of corporeity from it. *Glanv. Sciss.*
We are puzzled with contradictions, which are no abstractions to *defecate* faculties. *Glanv. Sciss. c. 13.*

DEFECATE. *adj.* [from the verb.] Purged from lees or foulness.

This liquor was very *defecate*, and of a pleasing golden colour. *Boyle's Spring of the Air.*

DEFECATION. *n. f.* [defecatio, Latin.] Purification; the act of clearing or purifying.

The spleen and liver are obstructed in their offices of *defecation*, whence vicious and dreggish blood. *Harvey on Conjun.*

DEFECT. *n. f.* [defectus, Latin.]
1. Want; absence of something necessary; insufficiency; the fault opposed to superfluity.

Errors have been corrected, and *defects* supplied. *Davies.*
Had this strange energy been less,
Defect had been as fatal as excess. *Blackmore's Creation.*

2. Failing; want.

Our mean secures us, and our mere *defects*
Prove our commodities. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

3. A fault; mistake; error.
We had rather follow the perfections of them whom we like not, than in *defects* resemble them whom we love. *Locke.*

You praise yourself,
By laying *defects* of judgment to me. *Shak. Ant. and Cleop.*
Trust not yourself; but your *defects* to know,
Make use of ev'ry friend—and ev'ry foe. *Pope's Essay.*

4. Any natural imperfection; a blemish; a failure.

Men, through some *defect* in the organs, want words, yet fail not to express their universal ideas by signs. *Locke.*

To DEFE'CT. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To be deficient; to fall short of; to fail. *Obsolete.*

Some lost themselves in attempts above humanity, yet the enquiries of most *defected* by the way, and tired within the sober circumference of knowledge. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

DEFECTIBILITY. *n. f.* [from *defectibilis*.] The state of failing; deficiency; imperfection.

The corruption of things corruptible depends upon the intrinsic *defectibility* of the connection or union of the parts of things corporeal, which is rooted in the very nature of the things. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*

DEFECTIBLE. *adj.* [from *defect*.]
1. Imperfect; deficient; wanting.

The extraordinary persons, thus highly favoured, were for a great part of their lives in a *defectible* condition. *Hale.*

DEFECTION. *n. f.* [defectio, Latin.]
1. Want; failure.

2. A falling away; apostasy.

This *defection* and falling away from God was first found in angels, and afterwards in men. *Raleigh's History of the World.*

If we fall away after tasting of the good word of God, how criminal must such a *defection* be? *Atterbury's Sermon.*

But there is more evil owing to our original *defection* from God, and the foolish and evil dispositions that are found in fallen man. *Watts's Logic.*

3. An abandoning of a king, or state; revolt.

He was diverted and drawn from hence by the general *defection* of the whole realm. *Davies on Ireland.*

Neither can this be meant of evil governors or tyrants, but of some perverseness and *defection* in the very nation itself. *Bacon's Holy War.*

DEFECTIVE. *adj.* [from *defectivus*, Latin.]
1. Full of defects; imperfect; not sufficient; not adequate to the purpose.

It subjects them to all the diseases depending upon a *defective* projectile motion of the blood. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

It will very little help to cure my ignorance, that this is the best of four or five hypotheses proposed, which are all *defective*. *Locke.*

If it rend us perfect in one accomplishment, it generally leaves us *defective* in another. *Addison's Spectator, No. 255.*

2. Faulty; vicious; blameable.

Our tragedy writers have been notoriously *defective* in giving proper sentiments to the persons they introduce. *Addison.*

DEFECTIVE or DEFICIENT Nouns [in grammar.] Indeclinable nouns, or such as want a number, or some particular case.

DEFECTIVE Verb [in grammar.] A verb which wants some of its tenses.

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DEFECTIVENESS. *n. f.* [from *defectivus*.] Want; the state of being imperfect; faultiness.

The lowness often opens the building in breadth, or the *defectiveness* of some other particular makes any single part appear in perfection. *Addison's Remarks on Italy.*

DEFENCE. *n. f.* [defensio, Latin.]
1. Guard; protection; security.

Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem, and built cities for *defence* in Judah. *2 Chron. ii. 5.*

The Lord is your protection and strong stay, a *defence* from heat, and a cover from the sun. *Ecclesi. xxxiv. 16.*

Be thou my strong rock for an house of *defence* to save me. *Pf. xxxi. 2.*

Against all this there seems to be no *defence*, but that of supporting one established form of doctrine and discipline. *See.*

2. Vindication; justification; apology.

Alexander beckoned with his hand, and would have made his *defence* unto the people. *Acts xix. 35.*

The youthful prince
With scorn replied, and made this bold *defence*. *Dryden.*

3. Prohibition; this is a sense merely French.

Severe *defences* may be made against wearing any linen under a certain breadth. *Temple.*

4. Resistance.

5. [In law.] The defendant's reply after declaration produced.

6. [In fortification.] The part that flanks another work.

DEFENCELESS. *adj.* [from *defence*.]
1. Naked; unarmed; unguarded; not provided with defence; unprepared.

Captain or colonel, or knight in arms,
Whose chance on these *defenceless* doors may seize,
If deed of honour did thee ever please,
Guard them, and him within protect from harms. *Milton.*

My sister is not to *defenceless* left
As you imagine: she has a hidden strength
Which you remember not. *Milton.*

Ah me! that fear
Comes thund'ring back with dreadful revolution
On my *defenceless* head. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. x. l. 815.*

On a slave disarm'd,
Defenceless, and submitted to my rage,
A base revenge is vengeance on myself. *Dryd. Don Sebastian.*

2. Impotent; unable to make resistance.

Will such a multitude of men employ
Their strength against a weak *defenceless* boy? *Addison's Ovid.*

To DEFEND. *v. a.* [defendo, Latin; defendre, French.]
1. To stand in defence of; to protect; to support.

There arose, to defend Israel, Tola the son of Puah. *Judg.*

Deliver me from mine enemies, O my God: defend me from them that rise up against me. *Pf. lix. 1.*

Heav'n defend your souls, that you think
I will your serious and great business scant. *Shak. Othello.*

2. To vindicate; to uphold; to assert; to maintain.

The queen on the throne, by God's assistance, is able to defend herself against all her majesty's enemies and allies put together. *Swift's Remarks on the Barrier Treaty.*

3. To fortify; to secure.

And here th' access a gloomy grove defends,
And here th' unnavigable lake extends. *Dryden's Æneis.*

4. To prohibit; to forbid. [defendre, French.]
Where can you say, in any manner, age,
That ever God defended marriage? *Chaucer.*

O sons! like one of us, man is become
To know both good and evil, since his taste
Of that defended fruit. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. xi. l. 86.*

The use of it is little practised, and in some places defended by customs or laws. *Temple.*

5. To maintain a place, or cause, against those that attack it.

DEFENDABLE. *adj.* [from *defend*.] That may be defended.

DEFENDANT. *adj.* [from *defendo*, Latin.] Defensive; fit for defence.

Line and new repair our towns of war
With men of courage, and with means defendant. *Shak. Sp.*

DEFENDANT. *n. f.* [from the adjective.]
1. He that defends against assailants.

Those high towers, out of which the Romans might more conveniently fight with the defendants on the wall, those also were broken by his engines. *Wilkins's Math. Mag.*

2. [In law.] The person accused or sued.

This is the day appointed for the combat,
And ready are th' appellant and defendant. *Shak. Henry VI.*

Plaintiff dogs, and bear defendant. *Hudibras.*

DEFENDER. *n. f.* [defensor, Latin.]
1. One that defends; a champion.

You have the power still
To banish your defenders, till at length
Your ignorance deliver you,
As most abated captives, to some nation
That won you without blows. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*

Do'st thou not mourn our pow'r employ'd in vain,
And the defenders of our city slain? *Dryden.*

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2. An asserter; a vindicator.
Undoubtedly there is no way so effectual to betray the truth, as to procure it a weak *defender*. *South's Sermons.*

3. [In law.] An advocate; one that defends another in a court of justice.

DEFENSATIVE. *n. f.* [from *defence*.]
1. Guard; defence.

A very unsafe *defensive* it is against the fury of the lion, and surely no better than virginity, or blood royal, which Pliny doth place in cock-broth. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. iii.*

If the bishop has no other *defensatives* but excommunication, no other power but that of the keys, he may surrender up his pastoral staff. *South's Sermons.*

2. [In surgery.] A bandage, plaister, or the like, used to secure a wound from outward violence.

DEFENSIBLE. *adj.* [from *defence*.] That may be defended.

A field,
Which nothing but the found of Hotspur's name,
Did seem to make *defensible*. *Shakespeare's Henry IV. p. ii.*

They must make themselves *defensible*, both against the natives and against strangers. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers.*

Having often heard Venice represented as one of the most *defensible* cities in the world, I informed myself in what its strength consists. *Addison's Remarks on Italy.*

2. Justifiable; right; capable of vindication.

I conceive it very *defensible* to disarm an adversary, and disable him from doing mischief. *Collier.*

DEFENSIVE. *adj.* [defensiv, Fr. from *defendens*, Latin.]
1. That serves to defend; proper for defence; not offensive.

He would not be persuaded by danger to offer any offence, but only to stand upon the best *defensive* guard he could. *Sidney.*

My unpreparedness for war, testifies for me, that I am set on the *defensive* part. *King Charles.*

Defensive arms lay by, as useless here,
Where madly balls the neighbouring rocks do tear. *Waller.*

2. In a state or posture of defence.

What stood, recoild,
Defensive scarce, or with pale fear surpriz'd,
Fled ignominious. *Milton.*

DEFENSIVE. *n. f.* [from the adjective.]
1. Safeguard.

Wars preventive upon just fears, are true *defensives*, as well as on actual invasions. *Bacon's War with Spain.*

2. State of defence.

His majesty, not at all dismayed, resolved to stand upon the *defensive* only. *Clarendon, b. viii.*

DEFENSIVELY. *adv.* [from *defensive*.] In a defensive manner.

DEFENST. *part. pass.* [from *defence*.] Defended. *Obsolete.*

Stout men of arms, and with their guide of power,
Like Troy's old town, *defenst* with Ilion's tow'r. *Fairfax.*

To DEFER. *v. n.* [from *deferre*, Latin.]
1. To put off; to delay to act.

He will not long defer
To vindicate the glory of his name
Against all competition, nor will long
Endure it. *Milton's Agonistes, l. 473.*

Inure thyself by times to the love and practice of good deeds; for the longer thou *deferst* to be acquainted with them, the less every day thou wilt find thyself disposed to them. *Alterb.*

2. To pay deference or regard to another's opinion.

To DEFER. *v. a.*
1. To withhold; to delay.

Defer the promis'd boon, the goddess cries,
Celestial azure brightening in the eyes. *Pope's Odyssey, b. i.*

Neither is this a matter to be *deferred* 'till a more convenient time of peace and leisure. *Swift.*

2. To refer to; to leave to another's judgment and determination.

The commissioners *deferred* the matter unto the earl of Northumberland, who was the principal man of authority in those parts. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

DEFERENCE. *n. f.* [deference, French.]
1. Regard; respect.

Virgil could have excelled Varius in tragedy, and Horace in lyric poetry, but out of *deference* to his friends he attempted neither. *Dryden's Juven. Dedicat.*

He may be convinced that he is in an error, by observing those persons, for whose wisdom and goodness he has the greatest *deference*, to be of a contrary sentiment. *Swift.*

2. Compliance; condescension.

A natural roughness makes a man uncomplaisant to others; so that he has no *deference* for their inclinations, tempers, or conditions. *Locke.*

3. Submission.

Most of our fellow-subjects are guided either by the prejudice of education, or a *deference* to the judgment of those who, perhaps, in their own hearts, disapprove the opinions which they industriously spread among the multitude. *Addison.*

DEFERENT. *adj.* [from *deferens*, of *deferre*, Latin.] That carries up and down.

The figures of pipes or concaves, through which sounds